

REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 7, 17, 18, 20, 21, 31, and 32, amend claims 1, 19, and 29, and add claims 33 and 34, such that claims 1-6, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 22-30, 33, and 34 are pending in this application.

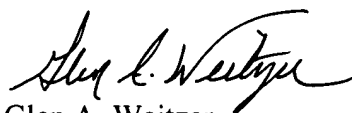
Applicants initially note with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 12, 13, 15, 16, and 22-28 and has identified allowable subject matter in claims 2-10, 20, and 31.

Applicants rewrite objected-to dependent claim 7 in independent form as newly amended independent claim 1, rewrite objected-to dependent claim 9 in independent form as newly added claim 33, rewrite objected-to dependent claim 20 in independent form as newly amended independent claim 19, and rewrite objected-to dependent claim 31 in independent form as newly amended independent claim 29. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 19, 29, and 33 are allowable. Claims 2-6 and 8-10 depend from allowable independent claim 1, claim 30 depends from allowable independent claim 29, and claim 34 depends from allowable independent claim 33, and therefore claims 2-6, 8-10, 30, and 34 are allowable for these and other reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment places the Application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should the Examiner determine that such action would facilitate the prosecution and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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